

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 08/30/2011, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below:

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because figures 2-3 are unclear with their bold faces. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the

replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watts. Jr. et al. [US 6,963,757] in view of Weidner et al. [US 7,234,967].

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Watts. Jr. et al. disclose a modem card (15, figure 2) for connecting to a carrier assembly (18, figure 2), comprising: a circuitry (figure 2) for interfacing with a telephone line (10, figure 2); and at least one signal line of the modem module connected to the carrier assembly through an edge connector (32, figure 2).

Watts. Jr. et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the modem having one or more solder pads for connecting the signal line therefrom the modem onto the carrier assembly.

Weidner et al. disclose a printed circuit board assembly (104, figure 7) having a plurality of conductive pads (186, 188, 184, figure 7) disposed at an edge the printed circuit board thereof, wherein at least one of the conductive pads is provided a solder pad (184, figure 7, column 6, line 17).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the solder pad design in the modem card of Watts. Jr. et al., as suggested by Weidner et al., for the purpose of soldering the modem card thereon the carrier assembly instead of replacement therefrom the electronic device.

Regarding claims 2-3 and 15-16, Watts. Jr. et al., as modified, disclose a tip/ring connector (10, figures 2-4) for interfacing with the telephone line.

Regarding claims 4 and 17, Watts. Jr. et al., as modified, disclose the carrier assembly being a motherboard (18, figure 2, column 3, line 44).

Regarding claims 6-7 and 19-20, Watts. Jr. et al., as modified, disclose the modem assembly being an integrated device and being fabricated on a printed circuit board (figure 2).

Regarding claims 8-11 and 13, the claim method steps would have been necessitated by the product structures.

5. Claims 5, 12 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watts. Jr. et al., as modified, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Downie et al. [US 5,471,368].

6. **Regarding claims 5 and 18.** Watts. Jr. et al., as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the one or more solder pads being soldered to corresponding one or more solder pads on the carrier assembly.

Downie et al. disclose an expansion board (110, figures 3-5) soldered onto a mother board (20, figure 5) through a plurality of solder pads which are corresponding therefrom the expansion board and the mother board (53, 55, 63, 65, figure 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to solder the modem card onto the mother board of Watts Jr. et al., as modified, as suggested by Downie et al., for the purpose of providing permanently connection between the modem and the motherboard and/or removable the modem card therefrom the computer.

Regarding claim 12, the claim method steps would have been necessitated by the product structures.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Conn [US 6,945,712] discloses fiber optic programmable gate array integrated circuit packaging;
- b. Baran [US 5,686,871] discloses method for minimizing radio frequency emissions from plug-in adapter cards in computer system;
- c. Ito et al. [US 2001/0007524] disclose electronic apparatus;
- d. Jang et al. [US 7,419,381] disclose hybrid circuit board and display device having the same; and
- e. Homic [US 5,509,811] discloses computer enclosure with embedded PCMCIA modem card.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG S. BUI whose telephone number is (571)272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jinhee J. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-1977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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